

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APP. NO. 09/771,632

REMARKS

Claim 6 is the only claim pending in the application.

The rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Woo et al (USP 5,781,788) has been maintained. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Analysis of the Claim Rejection

In response to the previous Office Action it was submitted that Woo et al does not disclose “(b) determining whether or not to perform encoding and/or decoding, by checking a reset of the task status register in the encoder and/or decoder”, as required by claim 6, and several arguments were presented supporting this. In the present Office Action, the Examiner responds to each of these arguments. Applicant respectfully disagrees, however, with the Examiner’s response to these arguments.

First, it was argued in the previous Response that Woo does not teach in any way determining whether or not to perform encoding and/or decoding by checking a reset of the task status register. The Examiner responds by stating that the reset step of Fig. 5 of Woo is performed in a buffer, which is the claimed “register”. There is no teaching that the step 202 of Fig. 5 is performed in a buffer. Woo merely teaches that Fig. 5 illustrates the steps of a method 200 for rate buffer control (col. 13, lines 48-49). There is simply no teaching that step 202 is performed in a buffer. The Examiner also states that Woo discloses, at col. 5, lines 24-34, encoding “by performing interrogation of the register file. Such interrogation as suggested by Woo is the status checking as claimed by the applicant. In addition, the steps taken to monitor the behavior of the coding/decoding process is understood as being the step where a decision has to be made in order to determine whether coding/decoding is necessary. Further, in col. 7, lines 15-20, Woo discloses a step of specifying the status information by register.” Applicant respectfully disagrees with each of these statements.

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Regarding the Examiner's statement, that Woo discloses, at col. 5, lines 24-34, encoding "by performing interrogation of the register file", there is no disclosure by Woo of encoding by performing interrogation of the register file. Woo merely teaches that the user can use the register file 40 to control, adjust and monitor operations of the video codec. There is no teaching that the reset of step 202 of Fig. 5 has any relation to this register file. The Examiner states: "Such interrogation as suggested by Woo is the status checking as claimed by the applicant." But the Examiner has not demonstrated that the reset step 202 of Woo is related to the register file 40. In an anticipation rejection, there must be more than a suggestion. For an anticipation rejection, a single reference must teach every element of the claim expressly, implicitly or inherently. The Examiner has not shown that the step 20 of Fig. 5 of Woo is related to the file register 40. The Examiner's allegation that this is suggested is not enough to support an anticipation rejection.

Also, it was argued in response to the previous Office Action, that there is no teaching or suggestion in Woo of "(c) making pre-assigned bits of the task status register indicate buffer statuses of an encoder buffer and a decoder buffer". In the present Office Action, the Examiner refers to Woo at col. 13, lines 50-51 as disclosing the "pre-assigned number of bits." Applicant submits, however, that disclosing a "pre-assigned number of bits" does not meet the language of the claim. That is, claim 6 recites "making pre-assigned bits of the task status register indicate buffer statuses of an encoder buffer and a decoder buffer." The portion of the reference cited by the Examiner discloses loading a target number of bits per frame, but does not disclose anything with regard to pre-assigned bits of a register. A pre-assigned number of bits is not related to pre-assigned bits.

Applicant submits that claim 6 is not anticipated by Woo et al at least for the reasons presented above.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

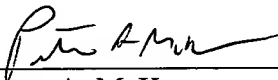
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